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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING
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Christina A. Engel
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Christina A. Engel 9/12/06
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of)
Dennis J. Peterlin et al.) Examiner: J.D. Prone
for METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING)
A RAZOR BLADE) Group Art Unit: 3724
Serial No: 10/786,267)
Filed On: February 25, 2004) (Our File No. 6579-0096-1)

Middletown, Connecticut, September 12, 2006

Via Facsimile No. 571-273-8300
Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed August 14, 2006, having a period for response set to expire on September 14, 2006.

In the Office Action, claims 1-15 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. The Examiner has required the election of a single group of claims for prosecution in this application. The Examiner alleges that the inventions of Species A (Figures 1-5), Species B (Figures 6-9), Species C (Figures 10-13), Species D (Figures 14-18), Species E (Figures 19-23), and Species F (Figures 24-29) are independent or distinct for the following reasons: (1) Species A is directed to a blade with a bore and one perimeter portion; (2) Species B is directed to a blade with a bore and at least two perimeter portions; (3) Species C is directed to a blade with a bore, at least two perimeter portions, and cutouts; (4)

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Reply to Office Action of August 14, 2006

Species D is directed to a blade with a scalloped cutting edge; (5) Species E is directed to a blade with a scalloped cutting edge and skin guides; and (6) Species F is directed to a blade with skin guides and a corrugation.

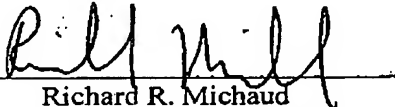
Applicants understand that 35 U.S.C. §121 requires the election of a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Applicants also understand that, currently, some claims may be generic and that upon allowance of a generic claim, Applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species that depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of an allowable generic claim as provided by 37 C.F.R. §1.141.

Applicants hereby elect Species E (Figures 19-23) for prosecution. The claims corresponding to Figures 19-23 are claims 1-4 and 7-10.

Applicants believe that the foregoing election fully complies with the Office Action and that all claims of the application are allowable. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicants' attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Applicants believe that no fees are due with the submission of this Response. If, however, it is deemed that any fees are in fact due, they may be charged to Deposit Account No. 503342 maintained by Applicants' attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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